

HUNGRY HORSE VILLAGE, THREE-SIDED METAL SHED
(Hungry Horse Village, Structure 18)
Flathead National Forest
Approximately 1 mile south of Highway 2
and 1/4 mile east of Colorado Blvd.
Hungry Horse, vicinity
Flathead County
Montana

HABS No. MT-112-A

HABS
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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HUNGRY HORSE VILLAGE, THREE-SIDED METAL SHED (HUNGRY HORSE VILLAGE, STRUCTURE 18)

HABS No. MT-112-A

Location: Approximately one mile south of Hwy 2 and one-quarter mile east of Colorado Blvd. in Hungry Horse, Flathead National Forest, Flathead County, Montana.

Significance: The Three-Sided Metal Shed is part of the warehouse complex associated with the construction period of the Hungry Horse Dam (1945–1953) and its government and contractors' camps, known collectively as Hungry Horse Village. Replete with paved roads, a sewage system, electricity, chlorinated hot and cold running water, and a school that served kindergarten through the eighth grade, Hungry Horse Village at its peak housed a combined workforce of nearly 2,000 workers and their families.

Description: Located 28' north of the Spotted Bear District Warehouse (HABS No. MT-112-B), the 48'x12' rectangular shed is a post-and-beam building enclosed on three sides with corrugated galvanized steel panels. Round pre-cast concrete piers support the vertical structural elements; there is no interior floor. All of the structural elements, most of which are dimensional lumber, are bolted together. Open to the south, the shed faces the warehouse across a grassy courtyard that is fenced-in with four, 14-foot-wide sections of 28-foot cyclone fence that can be opened outward to provide full access to the yard. The shed is divided into three roughly equal sections or bays by the vertical rough-cut wood beams. The middle and eastern "bays," are approximately 17 feet wide. The shed roof is 16 feet tall at its peak and 12 feet at the back. A roof overhang, the edge of which is supported by four, dimensional lumber brackets, provides six feet of coverage to the open, southern side. A framed enclosure occupies the westernmost bay creating a one-story 14-foot by 12-foot "room" with loft storage above. A wood ladder runs up the western edge of the room to the loft and an over-sized wood door provides access to the interior.

History: Very little is known about the history of this building or its use during the period of significance. A 2000 building site form identifies the date of construction as 1948, but definitive evidence has not been found. The height and depth of the bays indicate that it may have been used to house vehicles of a substantial size (larger than cars). Brackets on the interior of the rear wall may have been used to support pipes or lumber. The wood room was likely a storage area for small tools and other such implements. At the time of this writing, a tractor and hay bales occupied a portion of one bay. In 2000, the building was being used for storage and restoration.

Sources: M. T., "Misc. Info. Associated with Building or Site," form, HH/GV, SB Open Face Shed, March 21, 2000, USDA Forest Service, Flathead National Forest, Kalispell, Montana.

United States, Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, "Technical Record of Design and Construction, Hungry Horse Dam and Powerplant," constructed 1948–1953, Denver, Colorado, May 1958, government documents, University of Montana, Mansfield Library.

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